

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 2 through 4, 7, and 8 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, and 10 and add Claims 11 through 17 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A broadcast signal receiving apparatus comprising:

a selection circuit for selecting ~~a reception subject~~ a channel in a received broadcast signal;

a recording device ~~for recording a received signal of the reception subject that is capable of recording a program broadcasted on the selected channel selected by the selection circuit~~;

an operation unit for setting an elapsed time threshold that is compared to a time period during which the channel broadcasting the program is selected by the selection circuit, in order for the program to be recorded automatically; and

a control unit for ~~controlling~~ performing control with regard to recording the program, ~~start of recording a signal on the recording device~~;

wherein the control unit ~~starts~~ measures a time period during which the channel is selected in a case where the selection circuit selects the channel, and performs control to record recording the program broadcasted on the selected channel of the signal on the recording device on condition that in a case where a the measured time period exceeds the elapsed time threshold set via the operation unit selected time over which the reception subject has been selected exceeds a predetermined time.

2 - 4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A broadcast signal receiving apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an acquiring unit for acquiring program information regarding a program to be broadcasted,

wherein the reception subject is a broadcasted program, and the control unit conducts control to terminate the recording when a program started in recording has finished the control unit performs control to terminate the recording when the recorded program finishes, based on a program end time in the program information acquired by the acquiring unit.

6. (Currently Amended) A broadcast signal receiving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control unit starts recording further on condition that at least one of reception subject information, reception date, reception day of the week and reception time satisfies a predetermined requirement: the operating unit is capable of setting a period of time in which the control unit performs control to record the program automatically, and

wherein the control unit, in the period of time set via the operating unit, measures a time period during which the channel is selected in a case where the selection circuit selects the channel, and performs control to record the program broadcasted on the selected channel on the recording device in a case where the measured time period exceeds the elapsed time threshold set via the operation unit.

7 - 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A broadcast signal receiving apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising: a circuit for generating perception of the start of the recording; or advance notice concerning the start of the recording;

a character output unit for displaying character information on a display unit for displaying an image.

wherein the control unit controls the character output unit such that character information which represents advance notice concerning the start of the recording is displayed on the display unit.

10. (Currently Amended) A broadcast signal recording method comprising:
a process for selecting a reception subject an arbitrary channel in a received broadcast signal; and
a process for setting an elapsed time threshold;
a process for measuring a selected time of the selected channel; and
a process for recording a received signal of the reception subject a program broadcasted on the selected channel, wherein recording of the signal is started on condition that a selected time over which the reception subject has been selected exceeds a predetermined time; in a case where the selected time exceeds the elapsed time threshold.

11. (New) A broadcast signal recording method according to claim 10, further comprising:

a process for acquiring program information regarding a program to be broadcasted; and

a process for terminating the recording when the recorded program finishes, based on a program end time in the program information.

12. (New) A broadcast signal recording method according to claim 10, further comprising:

a process for setting a period of time in which the control of automatically recording a program is performed,

wherein the process for recording a program is performed only during the set period of time.

13. (New) A broadcast signal recording method according to claim 10, further comprising:

a process for displaying character information which represents advance notice concerning the start of the recording.

14. (New) A broadcast signal receiving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control unit does not perform control to record the program in a case where a viewer performs an operation for canceling or recording before the measured time period exceeds the elapsed time threshold.

15. (New) A broadcast signal receiving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case that the selection of channel is changed while measuring the time period during which a program is selected, the control unit interrupts measuring the selected time period of the previously selected program and starts measuring the selected time period of the newly selected program.

16. (New) A broadcast signal recording method according to claim 10, wherein the process for recording the program is not executed in a case where a viewer

performs an operation for canceling recording before the measured time period exceeds the elapsed time threshold.

17. (New) A broadcast signal recording method according to claim 10, further comprising:

a process for (a) interrupting measuring the selected time period of a previously selected program and (b) starting measuring the selected time period of a newly selected program, in a case that the selection of channel is changed while measuring the selected time period during which the previously selected program is selected.